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Contact: Jodie Tabak (414) 286-8504

MAYOR BARRETT ATTENDING GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE MEETING

Mayor to Participate on Panel Promoting "Fresh Coast" and Provide Official Milwaukee Welcome for 2010 Conference

Trois-Rivières, Québec – Mayor Barrett is participating in the sixth annual Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Meeting in Trois-Rivières, Québec, where Mayors congratulated the U.S. and Canadian Federal governments for agreeing to negotiate a new Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA).

The Great Lakes mayors called for the new Agreement to be in place by June of 2010 and for local government to be included as full partners in the negotiation and implementation of the Agreement.

"These magnificent lakes are now facing more complex threats than were ever considered twenty-five years ago," said Toronto Mayor David Miller, Founding Canadian Chair of the Cities Initiative. "A new agreement must be forward-looking, results oriented and address new threats to the Lakes."

The GLWQA is the primary agreement between Canada and the United States to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem. Last amended in 1987, the agreement fails to address some of the most serious threats to the Great Lakes that have developed over the last twenty-five years, such as emerging toxic chemicals, aquatic invasive species and climate change.

"This is exactly the forum for this important issue to be addressed," Mayor Barrett said. "Without a consistent, basin-wide regulatory program for the discharge of ballast water, the impacts of invasive species will go un-checked."

Tomorrow Mayor Barrett will participate on a panel titled, "Gateways to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence: Dreams and Realities for Municipal Shorelines," where he'll explain what Milwaukee has done along the waterfront of Lake Michigan with the Milwaukee Art Museum and Discovery World, and what plans are in the works for more in the future.

During tomorrow's luncheon, Mayor Barrett will provide the first official welcome to Milwaukee. The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Meeting will take place in Milwaukee in 2010.

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is a bi-national coalition of 64 mayors and other local officials that works actively with federal, state, tribal, first nation and provincial governments and other stakeholders to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. To learn more, please visit www.glslcities.org.

Press Contacts:

David Ullrich, Executive Director 312.201.4516 312.480.6501 cell david.ullrich@glslcities.org Nicola Crawhall, Deputy Director 416.463.4938 cell nicola.crawhall@sympatico.ca

MAYOR BARRETT TO PROCLAIM SATURDAY "TY MPD" DAY

Event T-shirts will be on sale in City Hall Rotunda Tomorrow

MILWAUKEE — Mayor Tom Barrett will proclaim Saturday, June 20th "TY MPD" Day in recognition of Saturday's event organized to pay tribute to the brave men and women of the Milwaukee Police Department. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the TYMPD fund which benefits officers injured in the line of duty. This fund was created as a legacy to officers Bryan Norberg and Graham Kunisch, the two officers who were injured in the line of duty last week. Mayor Barrett will also participate in selling T-shirts for the event tomorrow in the City Hall Rotunda.

When: TOMORROW

Wednesday, June 17, 2009 Noon

Where: City Hall Rotunda 200 East Wells Street Milwaukee

Mayor Barrett will be joined by Chief Flynn and representatives from Bell Ambulance.

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